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The sustainable development of forests: Aspirations and the Reality

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Burley, Jeff (Oxford Forestry Institute. South Parks Road. Oxford OX11 3RB): Introduction and overview (Orig. en)

In: *Naturzale*. 15, 9-11

Abstract: Since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992, there have been a large number of global, regional and national initiatives to develop the concept, criteria, indicators, guidelines, actual practice and certification of sustainable forest management. The concept of sustainability itself continues to be debated vigorously but essentially it seeks management of forests to maintain the output of all the services, products and other benefits that they can supply. While criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management vary somewhat between regions and forests types, there is a reasonable and predictable similarity among them. However, there are great differences between their relevance at the global, regional and local scales.

Key Words: Sustainable forestry indicators. Local-regional-global scales.

Whitmore. T.C. (Univ. of Cambridge. Geography Dept. Cambridge CB2 3EN): The case of tropical rain forests. The sustainable development of forests: aspirations and the reality(Orig. en)

In: *Naturzale*. 15, 13-15

Abstract: The aspiration in tropical rain forests should be to continue as sustainable producers of forest services, and forests goods, timber production being one of its functions. Biodiversity conservation now has high prominence. The reality today is that tropical rain forests are becoming reduced to fragments in agricultural landscapes. Forest services are now provided (or not) by other kinds of vegetation. Production of forest goods is reduced. In particular, there are big unanswered questions on whether biodiversity can persist in cultural landscapes.

Key Words: Tropical rain forest functions. Biodiversity conservation. Fragmentation.

Onaindia, Miren (Univ. of the Basque Country. Dept. of Plant Biology and Ecology. P.O. Box 644. 48080 Bilbao): Diversification in the use of forest resources (Orig. en)

In: *Naturzale*. 15, 17-22

Abstract: The increasing awareness of human pressure on global resources has emphasised the need for protection, conservation, and sustainable management of forests and forest ecosystems. In the past 40 years in the Basque Country, there has been a significant increase of coniferous plantations and scrubland with an associated reduction of deciduous and riparian forests. There is a strong need of monitoring the whole forest ecosystem, and to incorporate environmental aspects and socio-economic data into forest statistics if the aim is to achieve a system of sustainable forest management.

Key Words: Plant diversity. Conservation. Sustainable development. Basque Country.

Pryor, Simon (Oxford Forestry Institute. South Parks Road. Oxford OX1 3RB): Sustainability of forests in Britain: is it a consensus, or still contentious? (Orig. en)

In: *Naturzale*. 15, 23-29

Abstract: The forest policy of Britain has three pillars, upon which there is remarkable consensus: sustainable management, multi-purpose benefits and protection and expansion of the forest area. However, when it comes to deciding on the detailed meaning of some of these broad concepts there is more debate. Most of the debate of the last couple of decades in Britain has been about environmental issues, but social issues are now increasing in prominence. This paper concentrates on the social and environmental issues raised in the sustainability discussion in Britain.

Key Words: Forestry in Great Britain. Social and environmental issues.

Michel, Mario (Basque Government. Dept. of Industry, Agriculture and Fisheries. Donostia, San Sebastián, 1. 01010 Vitoria-Gasteiz): Certification on the sustainable management of the Basque forests (Orig. en)

In: *Naturzale*. 15, 31-44

Abstract: The Autonomous Community of the Basque Country comprises three provinces with an area of 7,223 km² where forest covers 61% of the land. The forest sector has a promising future, however, the increasing social awareness of the ecological impact of fast growing forest tree species is leading to demands for multi-functional forest use. Thus future markets will undoubtedly demand a certification that guarantees to the consumer that wood has originated from forests managed with ecological care and social responsibility. This paper gives some point of views and raises issues about the certification in the context of Basque forest and the European trade.

Key Words: Multifunctional forest use. Basque Country. Certification.

Savill, Peter (Oxford Forestry Institute. South Parks Road. Oxford OX1 3RB): Silvicultural challenges in Great Britain (Orig. en)

In: *Naturzale*. 15, 45-50

Abstract: Many of the scientific and technical challenges facing forestry in Great Britain can be equally applied to other temperate countries, and even to tropical ones. To varying degrees, they are the subjects of debate almost everywhere both by policy makers, those concerned with growing trees and the public. Most current challenges arise from the increased environmental awareness of the population. Issues relate to the use of chemicals in forests, exotic versus native species and other environmental concerns. In this paper, these issues are elaborated upon, and progress with their resolution discussed.

Key Words: Forestry in Great Britain. Silvicultural and environmental issues.

Speechly, Hugh (SGS Forestry. Oxford Centre for Innovation. Mill Street. Oxford): Criteria and Indicators: Verification and certification (Orig. en)

In: *Naturzale*. 15, 51-57

Abstract: There is a need for independent monitoring to ensure credible sustainable forestry. The development of sustainable forest management criteria depends on international government agreements and international non-governmental processes. The criteria have to be based on legal, economic, environmental and social factors. The paper gives comments on forest certification its aims, alternatives, current status and current practice.

Key Words: Independent monitoring. Legal-economic-environmental aspects. Forest certification.

Loperena Rota, Demetrio (Univ. of the Basque Country. Law School. Dept. of Constitutional and Administrative Law. Manuel de Lardizabal, 2. 20018 Donostia): The environmental rights (Orig. en)

In: *Naturzale*. 15, 59-68

Abstract: This paper comments on the right to an adequate environment. This right is not the result of social development, but a fundamental requirement for a progress. The right is linked to human life itself: ubi homo, ibi societas; ubi societas, ibi ius. An adequate environment is obviously a prior requirement of law itself; without an adequate environment, there are no humans, no society; no society no law.

Key Words: Human rights. International environmental law. Ethical and political principles.

Bruenig, E.F. (114 Oxlease. Cogges. Witney. Oxon OX8 6QU): Sustainable forestry and society: Where conflicts arise and solutions can be found. Example Tropical Rainforest (Orig. en)

In: *Naturzale*. 15, 69-85

Abstract: The antropogenic principle of sustainability of forest management and conservation is a potential conflict because of the intrinsic human mentality. Sustainability will only be promoted by action when destruction of values or resources has led to extreme suffering. Sustainability can only be secured if the basic needs of human life are satisfied, and for luxuries only in affluent societies. The paper gives some examples backing these points.

Key Words: Antropogenic view. Sustainable management. Human needs.

Bermejo, Roberto (Esc. Univ. de Ingeniería Técnica Industrial. Dpto. Economía Aplicada I. Avda. Otaola, 29. 20600 Eibar.): Free market or sustainable development (Orig. en)

In: *Naturzale*. 15, 87-93

Abstract: This paper gives an historical view of economics and the new strategies in this field in relation to ecological concerns. The ecological problem is major and, as the Brundtland Report states, the survival of mankind is in danger. However, mainstream economics is not able to deal the problem, because maintaining ecological systems runs against the market economy. However most mainstream economists agree that the free market mechanism is the most suitable instrument to achieve sustainability but needs to be regulated in order to protect nature.

Key Words: Nature preservation. Economy. Value of environment. Free market mechanism.